

NEWS UPDATE

**Shelby County Office of Preparedness-Memphis & Shelby County
Emergency Management Agency-Bob Nations, Director**

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
(901) 515-2525**



September 3, 2008

Afternoon Update

What's New Since the Last Update?

- **FEMA is reporting that evacuees may soon return to some Gulf Coast communities. However, power outages and utility issues still exist in some areas. Evacuees are advised to check on their communities before departing for home.**

Here are some phone numbers and websites supplied by the *Louisiana Recovery Authority*:

- 1. Safe Return to Parish:** Call 1-866-288-2485 or log on to emergency.louisiana.gov.
 - 2. Road Closures:** 1-888-762-3511 (out-of-state) or 511(in-state).
 - 3. Find family in a shelter:** 1-800-957-1601.
 - 4. Sheltered Pet Information:** 1-800-558-9741
 - 5. Food Stamp Questions:** 1-888-524-3578
 - 6. Report Price Gouging:** 1-800-351-4889
- **FEMA-assisted evacuees who traveled to Memphis by Amtrak train may be leaving Friday evening. We will keep you posted.**

More than 3000 evacuees are staying in 22 Memphis area shelters. Seven (7) shelters are for FEMA-assisted evacuees only who arrived in Memphis by Amtrak train. Fifteen (15) additional shelters are serving evacuees:

- Lester Community Center-317 Tillman
- Hollywood Community Center-1560 North Hollywood
- Hope Presbyterian Church-8500 Walnut Grove Road
- White Station Church of Christ-1101 Colonial Road
- Bellevue Baptist Church-2000 Appling Road
- Goodman Oaks Baptist Church-1700 Goodman Road, Southaven, Mississippi
- Longview Heights Baptist Church-4501 Goodman Road, Olive Branch, Mississippi
- Southaven Multipurpose Arena-7360 Highway 51, Southaven, Mississippi
- World Overcomers Outreach Ministries Church-6655 Winchester Road at Kirby Parkway

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- First Baptist Church of West Memphis, Arkansas-200 Missouri Street
- Memphis Catholic High School-61 North McLean
- Bishop Byrne High School-1475 East Shelby Drive
- Cummings Street Baptist Church-250 East Raines Road
- G.W. Henderson Senior Center-1165 Abbey Street, Tunica, Mississippi
- Marion First Baptist Church-2137 Highway 77 Marion, Arkansas

Local numbers to call for help and information:

1. **211 LINC Line (Memphis Public Library and Information Center)**
2. **(901) 324-8799 (answered from 9 a.m. through 5 p.m.)**
3. **(901) 515-2525 EMA Operations Command Center. This number is answered 24 hours a day.**

A Word About Shelters

► **Should faith-based organizations want to open a shelter, the Emergency Operations Center should be contacted. The shelter will be listed along with the others in the daily updates to the community. Also, any facility opened as a shelter should be inspected to ensure it meets building and fire codes.**

DONATIONS NEEDED

- **Personal care items**-toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, hairbrushes, combs, etc.
- **Baby supplies**-baby food, baby wipes, diapers
- **Packaged underwear for men and women**
- **Entertainment items for children**-crayons, coloring books, poster boards, etc.
- **Food**-canned or prepackaged items

Donations may be dropped off at a warehouse at 994 South Bellevue between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or at the Red Cross at 1400 Central Avenue during business hours.

Volunteers: Volunteers are ***NEEDED*** to help during the relief effort to work at area shelters seeing the needs of evacuees and serving food. MIFA also needs help building travel kits for the FEMA-assisted evacuees who will leave Memphis by Amtrak train. Call the volunteer hotline **(901) 324-8799** between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. for information or the 211 Library LINC.

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Pets: Only “service dogs” are permitted in the shelter. The Memphis Humane Society-935 Farm Road and the Collierville Animal Shelter-603 East South Street are boarding pets for evacuees.

Food: Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ at 369 G.E. Patterson Boulevard is serving food through 4 p.m. today to shelter evacuees. The Memphis City Schools and many area churches are also serving food at shelters.

Transportation: Provided by Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA) buses.

Area attractions: Many tourist attractions are discounting rates or allowing free admission for evacuees. Contact the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau at **(901) 543-5375**.

Crime victims: Evacuees who are victims of crime may call the Shelby County Victims Assistance Center at **(901) 543-HELP (4357)** from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The center is located at 600 Adams Avenue.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness/EMA Operations Center is open 24 hours a day. For additional information, call **(901) 515-2525**.

(END OF RELEASE)